

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00  
FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03  
SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01  
L-03 H-01 DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 ITC-01 FEAE-00 INT-05  
/100 W

-----071800Z 055989 /46

R 071200Z MAR 77

FM AMCONSUL DOUALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1377

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV

SUBJ: TEXACO NATIONALIZATION

REF: DOUALA 0065

SUMMARY: EVENTS IN THE MOBIL-TEXACO COMPENSATION CLAIMS IN CONGO HAVE TAKEN A DRAMATIC TURN IN LAST WEEK. ON FEB 28, TEXACO RECEIVED TWO TELEGRAMS FROM CONGOLESE GOVT. BOTH ASKED FOR MEETING WITH OIL COMPANY REPS. TO DISCUSS THEIR COMPENSATION CLAIMS. DECISION ON FEBRUARY 5 BY DEPARTMENT TO REMOVE CONGO FROM LIST OF COUNTRIES ON GENERAL SPECIALIZED PREFERENCE LIST AFTER SIXTY DAYS IF NO PROGRESS IS MADE ON COMPENSATION CLAIMS SEEMS TO HAVE PLAYED A ROLE IN CHANGED STANCE.

1. FEB 28, 1977, TEXACO DOUALA RECEIVED TWO TELEGRAMS FROM GOVT OF THE CONGO PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC, ONE DATED FEB 2, OTHER FEB 22. BOTH ASKED FOR A MEETING WITH THE OIL COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES.

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2. MARCH 1, TEXACO REP ALLEN RESPONDED TO CONGOLESE CABLE WITH TELEX TO HOME OFFICE IN CORAL GABLES WITH FOLLOWING FOUR SUGGESTIONS:

A. ALLEN DELAY PROPOSED TRIP TO BURUNDI IN ORDER TO HELP IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH HYDROCONGO.

B. TEXACO REP. IN KINSHASA, CASTELEYN, SHOULD ATTEMPT TO GAIN ENTRANCE BRAZZAVILLE AND PRESENT LETTER TO AUTHORITIES INDICATING TEXACO'S INTEREST IN STARTING NEGOTIATIONS ASAP.  
C. THIS ACCOMPLISHED, CASTELEYN WOULD RETURN TO DOUALA TO PICK-UP BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR HYDROCONGO DISPUTE.  
D. DOUALA REP DUDER AND CASTELEYN TO GO TO BRAZZAVILLE AND BEGIN TALKS.

WITH THIS LETTER ALLEN SENT DRAFT OF LETTER WHICH COULD BE PRESENTED TO CONGOLESE.

3. ALSO ON MARCH 1, TEXACO LEARNED THAT MOBIL SENDING CHIEF ACCOUNTANT MR. DELENNE TO BRAZZAVILLE MARCH 7-10. HIS MISSION TO DETERMINE WHAT FIGURES BEING OFFERED BY HYDROCONGO. THIS COMPLETED, MOBIL NEGOTIATING TEAM WOULD PRESUMABLY FOLLOW.

4. MARCH 2, MR. POUPEAU, OF CORAL GABLES OFFICE CABLED DOUALA STATING THAT DOUALA SHOULD MOVE AHEAD AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE. IN HIS TELEX A REVISED VERSION OF THE ALLEN LETTER WAS INCLUDED, THE GIST OF WHICH IS AS FOLLOWS:  
TEXACO ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT YOUR TELEGRAM OF FEB 22 AND POINTS OUT THAT WE HAVE PRESSED SINCE 1974 FOR THE OPENING OF NEGOTIATIONS TO SETTLE INDEMNIFICATION QUESTION. TEXACO HAS ALWAYS BEEN AT YOUR DISPOSITION FOR ANY DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUE AND ARE WILLING TO MEET WITH YOU AT ANY TIME. WE ASK THAT YOU BE SO GOOD AS TO PROPOSE THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE FOR OUR MEETING AND WE WILL ARRANGE OUR TRIP TO BRAZZAVILLE ACCORDINGLY.

5. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT MR. CASTELEYN IS TO APPROACH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONGOLESE GOVERNMENT WITH THIS LETTER. MR. POUPEAU HAS REQUESTED THAT A RESPONSE FROM CONGOLESE BE SOLICITED THIS WEEK, BY MARCH 5, SETTING A DATE TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS.

6. MR. WHEELER, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER IN DOUALA FOR TEXACO, AND SOURCE OF ABOVE INFO, ALSO SAID THAT MR. POUPEAU IS FLYING TO PARIS ON MONDAY. HE DID NOT KNOW IF THIS TRIP WAS RELATED TO NEGOTIATIONS IN THE CONGO OR NOT.  
HALL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CLAIMS, COMPENSATION, NATIONALIZATION, PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, NEGOTIATIONS  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TEXACO NATIONALIZATION  
**TAGS:** EINV, PGOV  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009